



*Shepherd Elementary School*

# THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

June 18, 2010

## Mark Your Calendars!



- ▶ **Friday, June 4:** Friday, June 18: Full day of school
- ▶ **Monday, June 21:** Full day of school (snow make-up date)
- ▶ **Tuesday, June 22:** Full day of school (snow make-up date) -- and last day of school!
- ▶ **Wednesday, June 23:** PTA leaders dinner
- ▶ **Monday, June 28:** Summer school begins through Aug. 6

## FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT...

Dear Shepherd Parents,

Where has the year gone? This is my last submission for 2009-2010 school year. On behalf of the Shepherd Elementary Executive Committee it has been our honor to represent the parent body this past year. Over the past 10 months with direction from Principal Miles, the PTA has made some significant strides in enhancing the Shepherd Elementary experience.

Below is a list of the events that the PTA sponsored or funded for the 2009-2010 school year:

- Hosted pre-K/new student event (August 2009);
- Hosted Teacher Luncheon (August 2009);
- Purchased communication folders for school (August 2009);
- Funded and developed new Shepherd Elementary website (August 2009);
- Started the 180 Fund (September 2009; 122 parents participated);
- Hosted Color Me Mine Pre-K Fundraiser (September 2009);

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## *A Word from Mrs. Miles!*

### **Greetings Shepherd Park Families!**

As I write this, the last Mustang entry of the official school year, it is very hard to believe we are almost at the very end. Thinking back to August, it is truly amazing to notice how the children -- and all of us -- have grown and changed as we learned together and experienced so much.

### **Promotion and Awards Day**

I want to congratulate everyone on a wonderful year, and give a special nod to all those students who are being promoted to the next grade level. I would also like to extend special congratulations to our fifth graders who are moving up into Middle School.

On Wednesday, we had three special award ceremonies. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend and help make the day memorable for our students. I congratulate all of those students who received awards this year.

### **Happy Retirement**

In addition to saying goodbye to our 5th graders, we will also be saying goodbye to a valuable member of the Shepherd Family, Mrs. Michelle Thurber.

### **Teacher Assignments 2010**

Currently we are slotted to have 17 classes next year. There will be two teachers in grades PK, K, 3rd, and 4th grade, three teachers in 1st, 2nd, and 5th grade. As you have heard me say numerous times before, teacher placement, teacher allotment, and funding depends on the number of students we have registered. We are still missing over 100 registration forms. This translate to approximately 5 classes, 5 teachers \$425, 000. If you have not registered, please do so before you leave. The sooner you register the sooner I can finalize teacher grade level assignments and students assignments. Below I have listed the grade levels our teachers will teaching next year. Please understand this is VERY likely to change due to the fact that I am missing a significant number of registration packages.

- ☞ PreK- Byers and Gibbs
- ☞ Kindergarten - Holt and LaPenna
- ☞ First Grade - Crockett, Kuawogai, and Miller
- ☞ Second Grade - King, Chambliss and Johnson

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*From the PTA President con't....*

- Provided teacher stipend payments (September 2009);
- Funded teacher websites (September 2009);
- Family Fun Day fundraiser (September 2009);
- Funded cleaning supply money (September 2009);
- Purchased Discovery Communication software (October 2009);
- Reader's Digest fundraiser (October 2009);
- Provided 200 copies of Shepherd Elementary Directory (November 2009);
- Sponsored Making Change with Loose Change which provided donations to a family in need (November 2009);
- Solicited and received \$1,500 ANC grant for 10 new violins and tuned piano. (November 2009);
- Purchased 10 new computers/software for computer lab (delivered November 2009);
- Funded Discovery Communication Assessment Testing for first and second grades (conducted in January/February 2010);
- Box Top fundraiser (January 2010);
- PTA donation for Haitian Relief Shelter Boxes (February 2010);
- Sponsored the Shepherd Auction and purchased iPad to raffle (April 2010);
- Solicited and received \$500 donation from Kaizan Karate (May 2010);
- Solicited and received computer grant for pro-bono computer consultant for the library (June 2010);
- Funding 16 hours for grant writer to pursue computer and playground grants for Shepherd Elementary for 2010-2011 school year;
- PTA co-sponsorship with DCPS of a new all-purpose floor in auditorium (July 2010);

PTA to purchase \$20,000 in new computers and laptops for the 2010-2011 School Year (August 2010)

Congratulation to our parents of fifth-graders on successfully guiding their children through their elementary years! Please keep in touch. You will be missed!

Have a wonderful summer!

***Charisse Brossard***  
*PTA President 2009-2010*

## Wolf Trap Shows

Wolf Trap's Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods has a variety of shows throughout the summer. The shows are recommended for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. All shows run Tuesdays-Saturdays. Tickets are \$8 for one show, or \$10 for both shows on the same day. Tickets available at [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org) or by calling 877-965-3872. Groups of 20 or more can get discounts by calling 703-255-1851. The summer lineup includes the following:

- ♪ June 29-July 3: Dinorock in "The Great Dinosaur Mystery," 10 a.m., and Hayes Greenfield's "Jazz-a-Ma-Tazz," 11:15 a.m.;
- ♪ July 6-10: The Culkin School of Irish Dance's "Tir Na Nog (Land of Youth)," 10 a.m.; and Robbie Schaefer's "Songs for Kids Like Us," 11:15 a.m.;
- ♪ July 13-17: Synetic Family Theater's "Cowardly Christopher Finds His Courage," 10 a.m.; and Steve "SteveSongs" Rossionek, 11:15 a.m.;
- ♪ July 20-24: Diane Macklin's "Animal Tall Tales," 10 a.m., and "Music With Milkshake" featuring the Milkshake Trio, 11:15 a.m.;
- ♪ July 27-31: Maryland Youth Ballet's "Caroline Goes to the Zoo," 10 a.m., and the Bob Brown Puppets' "Dragon Features," 11:15 a.m.;
- ♪ Aug. 3-7: Project Trio's "From Hip-Hop to Bach," 10 a.m., and Wolf Trap Opera Studio's "Instant Opera!" 11:15 a.m.;
- ♪ Aug. 10-14: Dance Institute of Washington's "West Side Story," 10 a.m., and Rocknoceros' show "Painting the Town Pink!" 11:15 a.m.

### GOT SCOOPS?

**OUR NEWSLETTER IS YOUR NEWSLETTER AND WILL BE BACK WHEN SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION!**

The Mustang is an informative newsletter issued weekly on behalf of the whole school community. If you'd like to contribute to it, all you have to do is submit something by e-mail to the newsletter's e-mail address:

[sesmustang@gmail.com](mailto:sesmustang@gmail.com)

# Meet your 2010-2011 PTA Leadership Team!

Even though school isn't out for the summer yet, plenty of parents have signed on to take leadership for several of the necessary tasks that improve the quality of student (and parent!) life at Shepherd. If you see something that you want to join in on, contact the parent to offer your help; if you don't know how to contact the parent, call me at 829-9289 and I'll get you in touch with the parent.

- President: Mark Pattison
- First Vice President: Lisa Deane
- Second Vice President: Kimberly Jeffries Leonard
- Recording Secretary: Keisha Grant
- Corresponding Secretary: Corey (and Kim) Barnette
- Treasurer: Lisa Connor
- LSRT Parent Representatives: Marcie Bane, Charisse Brossard, Marcus Hall, Jennifer Pauk
- Academic Affairs: Kimberly Jeffries Leonard
- Auction: Bianca Bostic
- Buildings and Grounds: Frank Borris
- Classroom Parent Liaison: Lisa Deane
- Communication Committee: Richard McIntire
- Fall Fest: Charisse Brossard
- Fall Flower Bulb Sale: Stephanie Scott
- Fundraising: Lisa Connor
- Garden: Angela Anderson
- Grant Writing: Monica Goletiani
- Green Team: Alicia Anderson
- Health Committee: Sabine Herisse
- Investment Strategy Committee: Corey Barnette
- Loose Change Program: Marnie Keller
- Newsletter Editors: Fred Lewis
- Newsletter Layout and design: Rose Dawson
- Out-of-School Activities: Jennifer Pauk
- Pre-K Play Date: Donna Johnson Harvey
- Public Relations: Tafia Allah-Pringle
- QSP/Readers Digest Fall Fundraiser: Lawanda Tyus
- School Directory: Keisha Grant
- Used Uniform Clothing Sales: Marnie Keller
- Volunteer Database: Nashwa Beach

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*Mrs. Miles—con't from page 1*

- ☞ Third Grade - Thomas and Vacancy
- ☞ Fourth Grade - Weber and Christenberry
- ☞ Fifth Grade - Ulba, V-Nelson and Leonard

We have a vacancy for an IB coordinator, 3 additional instructional aides and one custodian (to replace Mr. Vincent). All of our aides along with individuals not listed here will be returning to Shepherd.

### **Student Placement**

If you ask me who is the better teacher or strongest teacher, my response will be "All Shepherd staff members have strengths and areas of growth". Please do not send me request for your child to be placed with a particular teacher. Parent request do not drive my placement decisions. When deciding what students should be placed with what teacher, I look at a combination of things: academics, personalities of the teacher, students and parents, sex, race, gender and student interactions with their classmates. If you know your child does well with a certain type of teacher, if they need special attention or if there is a situation between students that I am not aware of, please let me know. These are the conversations/emails I welcome.

Student placement decisions will not be made until the end of July or the first week in August. You will receive a phone message and a letter when the information is available.

### **Principal's End of Year Chat**

Last week at noon and at again at 6pm I had my last meeting with the parents. If you were in attendance, thank you. During the meeting we discussed: where we are as a school, some of the challenges we face, the school's budget, teacher assignments, IB and autonomy information, short and long term goals. Parents had a chance to ask questions and offer input. Based on the feedback I have received, those in attendance found it informative. If you were unable to attend, handouts will be available in the office on Monday and Tuesday of next week.

### **Final Farwell**

Thank you for trusting your children with us this year; we have loved every minute of it and appreciate your commitment to our school community. I hope you all have a wonderful summer however you choose to spend it, and I look forward to seeing you, if not on the Shepherd campus this summer (that's where I will be!) then this fall, as we begin the 2010-2011 school year. Have a great summer everyone!

*Jamie Miles*

Principal, Shepherd Elementary

## Used School Uniforms: Donations Accepted

As you know, we are starting from scratch with our used uniform clothing. We have given four laundry bags worth of used clothing to a church attended by the mother of a Shepherd parent for free distribution. This means that we need used clothing of all sizes for next year's students.

Please wash the clothing before turning it in at the school office. Once turned in, clothes will be sorted and prepped for sale once the 2010-11 school year begins. Every parent of any student from pre-K through fifth grade who expects their child to grow out of their uniform clothing should donate the stuff that's too small right away !

## Box Collection Continues

We still need more boxes for teachers and staff to put away their teaching supplies in time for the start of summer school next week. We need boxes of virtually every size. Copy-paper boxes work quite well, but smaller boxes -- if they're sturdy -- work well for heavy things, and big boxes are ideal for light things. Please bring your boxes to the main office. The teachers will thank you!



## Summer 'Work' Available

### Just Two Weeks Left For Tree Bag Filling

We need families to volunteer for a week or two to fill up the tree bags around the school. We have just two available weeks left. They are July 26 and Aug. 9.

The task should take no more than an hour and you can do it at pretty much any time that works for you. If you can help, contact Mark Pattison at [pattison\\_mark@hotmail.com](mailto:pattison_mark@hotmail.com) or 829-9289.



## Youth Summer Programming At Shepherd Park Library

- ξ There will be an all-ages feature called "Living Classrooms" at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 26.
- ξ Grammy-nominated local musician Christylez Bacon ("From Banjo to Beatbox," which also features D.C. children's music stalwarts Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer) will perform at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 30. The show is geared toward teens.
- ξ Kathy MacMillan will present a program called "Sign Language Storytelling" at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 9. The program is for age 5 and older.
- ξ The Washington National Opera will give a musical presentation at the library for all ages on Wednesday, July 14, at 1:30 p.m.
- ξ Kevin Reese will give a sculpture demonstration on Saturday, July 17, at 1 p.m. Teens and 'tweens are welcome. An all-ages show, "Reptiles Alive," will be held Thursday, July 22, at 4 p.m.

Another Grammy-nominated children's musician, Ray Owen, will perform at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 28.

If you want to learn more about these activities, call the children's desk of the library at 541-5917.

### PTA Leadership Team! Con't from page 3

Also, there are a fistful of tasks for which we don't have anyone lined up. Yet. You'll note them in a "Help Wanted" ad elsewhere in this week's Mustang. Contact me if you want to help in one or more of these critical areas.

Further, if you didn't spot something in this list of tasks that you think would make a positive difference in the school, call me with your ideas. Anything we can do to make our school even better will make us feel better, too!

*Mark Pattison,*

2010-2011 PTA president-elect

## Hot Fun in the Summer Time

Here is an all-too-short listing of things you may want to do with your family once school is over.

- ☀️ “Restaurant Week for Kids,” June 20-27. For ages 6-11, 5-6:30 p.m. Kids pay their ages with the purchase of an adult entrée. Participating restaurants feature special kid-focused menus. For restaurant listings, go to [restaurantweekforkids.org](http://restaurantweekforkids.org).
- ☀️ “Marce Lacouoture and Friends,” noon June 23, Library of Congress, Thomas Jefferson Building, Coolidge Auditorium. Cajun music for all ages. For details, go to [loc.gov.folklife](http://loc.gov.folklife).
- ☀️ “Transferring Thangkas,” 2 p.m. June 23 and 26, Freer and Sackler Galleries. For ages 8-14 with an adult. Explore the exhibit “In the Realm of the Buddha,” create a pinhole copy of the symbols of Tibetan Buddhism and transfer the symbol to paper with paint. For details, go to [asia.si.edu](http://asia.si.edu).
- ☀️ Little Tots Playdates, 6:30 p.m. June 23 and 30, downtown Silver Spring. For details, go to [downtownsilverspring.com](http://downtownsilverspring.com).
- ☀️ “Road Soda,” 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 24. Farragut Square Park in downtown Washington. For all ages. Covers of classic rock in the park. For details go to [goldentriangle.dc.com](http://goldentriangle.dc.com).
- ☀️ Smithsonian Folklife Festival, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. June 24-July 5, on the National Mall. For all ages. Performances, demonstrations, crafts, activities and more, focusing on Mexican and Asian-Pacific American culture. For a list of events, go to [festival.si.edu](http://festival.si.edu).
- ☀️ Pasatono Orquesta concert, 5 p.m. June 25, Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian. For all ages. A Mixtec troupe from Oaxaca, Mexico, performs traditional instrumental and vocal music of the region. For info, go to [nmai.si.edu](http://nmai.si.edu).
- ☀️ “Airport Explorers,” 10 a.m.-4 p.m. June 26, College Park Aviation Museum, College Park. For ages 8-up. An all-day team scavenger hunt on the museum and airport grounds. Answer all the clues first and win a prize. Registration fee. To register, call 301-864-6029.
- ☀️ “Butterfly Count,” June 26, Audubon Naturalist Society, Chevy Chase. Time to be determined. Team up and head into the field to count butterfly species. To register, call 301-652-9188, ext. 27.
- ☀️ “Great American Backyard Campout,” noon, Saturday, June 26, Sky Meadows State Park, 11012 Edmonds Lane, Delaplane, Va. Find out what you need to know to get started with hiking, backpacking, and “orienteeing.” Admission charge. For more, go to either [www.backyardcampout.org](http://www.backyardcampout.org) or [www.virginiastateparks.gov](http://www.virginiastateparks.gov).
- ☀️ “Celebrating America!” concert with the Mormon Choir of Washington D.C., 7-8:30 p.m. Sunday, June 27, Mormon Temple Visitors’ Center, 9900 Stonybrook Drive, Kensington. Patriotic song, plus gospel, blues, Jazz and Broadway tunes to celebrate the nation’s rich cultural heritage. For details, call 301-587-0144 or go to [www.lds.org/dccalendar](http://www.lds.org/dccalendar).
- ☀️ “Daddy-Daughter Date Night,” 7 p.m., June 30, Prince George’s Stadium, Bowie. For ages 3-up. Watch the home team Bowie Baysox take on the Erie SeaWolves in Eastern League baseball action. Come early to watch the teams practice, then stay late to run the bases on the field. Tickets \$9 and \$14. For info, go to [baysox.com](http://baysox.com).
- ☀️ “Prayers in the Wind,” 2 p.m. June 30-July 1, Freer and Sackler Galleries. For ages 8-14 with adult. Use hand-carved wisdom printing blocks from the great stupas of Nepal to print prayer flags and paper prints of Buddhist deities and prayers for peace and protection. For info, go to [asia.si.edu](http://asia.si.edu).
- ☀️ “If You Gave a Pig a Pancake,” a show put on by Adventure Theater, July 2-Aug. 15, Glen Echo Park. For tickets, call 301-634-2270.
- ☀️ Kutztown Folk Festival, July 3-11, Kutztown Fairgrounds, 19530 Penn. Route 222, Kutztown, Pa. Demonstrations of crafts by more than 200 juried craftswomen and craftsmen, plus folklore demonstrations, historical reenactments, antiques, and traditional music and dancing on six stages. For information, call 888-674-5136 or go to [www.kutztownfestival.com](http://www.kutztownfestival.com).

### Book Discussion at Shepherd Park Library

The Shepherd Park Library’s Black Voices Book Club will have a discussion of Octavia E. Butler’s classic “Kindred,” now freshly reissued in a 25th anniversary edition. The discussion takes place 7 p.m. Monday, June 21, at the library, 7420 Georgia Ave. NW. For details, call 541-6100.

## 'The Shepherd Way': Be a Mentor!

The call continues for Shepherd parents to serve as mentors to new parents for 2010. The best way for parents to learn what "The Shepherd Way" is with the guiding hands of parents who have already been there! Please offer your wisdom and your time to benefit new parents. Sign up with Ms. Brooks in the school office, or send an e-mail to her at [robyn.a.brooks@dc.gov](mailto:robyn.a.brooks@dc.gov).

## School News

### During Summer Vacation

Just because there's no school doesn't mean there's no activity on the school front. How can you keep up with what's happening? Two ways, and both of them involve a computer.

Go to the school website, [www.shepherd-elementary.org](http://www.shepherd-elementary.org), for updated information on the year ahead.

For more immediate news, the school listserv will still be operating. If you have not yet subscribed, you can do so by sending an e-mail to [shepherd\\_elementary\\_pta\\_subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:shepherd_elementary_pta_subscribe@yahoo.com). Make sure you include the name and grade of your child when you submit your request.

Remember also to keep your 2009-10 Shepherd Elementary Family Directory handy to call parents and friends -- at least until the 2010-11 edition is unveiled!

## Lunch With the Mayor At Ben's Chili Bowl

The first-graders in Ms. Kuawogai's class won't be eating in the cafeteria this Friday, June 18. Instead, they'll be munching on a hot dog and chips at D.C.'s storied Ben's Chili Bowl with DC Mayor Adrian Fenty! A parent in Ms. Kuawogai's class won the classroom lunch with His Honor, and his scheduling secretary anointed June 18 as the day. Next step: Teaching the students who the mayor is and what a mayor does.

## LSRT Election Results

Congratulations to the four parents elected from last Friday's voting for four parent representatives to Shepherd's Local School Restructuring Team:

- Marcie Bane
- Charisse Brossard
- Marcus Hall
- Jennifer Pauk

Marcie was last year's parent co-chair on the LSRT, and Charisse had a seat on the LSRT by virtue of her being PTA president.

Marcus and Jennifer will each serve their first year on the LSRT when school resumes in the fall.

We also thank Rhonda Davis Smith and Bill Wilson for their participation on the LSRT. Bill won election last year, while Rhonda was the other parent co-chair -- and a four-year LSRT veteran!

## Shepherd Readers Honored At June 18 Baseball Game

This Friday, June 18, is Shepherd Elementary All-Star Reader Appreciation Night at the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbirds game vs. the Maryland Redbirds at the Blair High School baseball field, University Boulevard at Colesville Road in Silver Spring.

Game time is 7 p.m., but show up early. Shepherd's school librarian, Ms. Scinto, will be taking tickets at the gate. Shepherd pre-K teacher Ms. Holt will throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

And next year's PTA president, Mark Pattison, will lead the crowd in the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2 for children ages 5-17, and free for kids age 5 and younger - and any kids wearing a baseball or softball uniform.

For more info, go to [www.tbolts.org](http://www.tbolts.org) or check out the message line at 301-270-0794.

# Our School Kidz Whose Parentz Used SchoolKidz



Here is a complete accounting of students whose parents opted to use the Staples/SchoolKidz school-supplies advance purchase program. In all, 83 students had the bulk of the supplies they need for the coming school year ordered through SchoolKidz. The supplies will be delivered to the school. Each supply pack will have the student's name on it and will be sent to their classroom. And there are their names, by grade:

## Pre-K

Nicholas Anagnostopoulos  
 Natasha Dorkin  
 Claudia Goletiani  
 Mario Imbroscio  
 Sean Reece  
 Kristian Swanson  
 Eyan White

Bianca Popa  
 Phillip Omohundro  
 Tajee Pringle  
 Mia Saunders  
 Myra Shalaty  
 Nina Sinkford

## First Grade

Logan Botvin  
 Nathan Demissie  
 Moise Elijah  
 Claire Harvey  
 Masai Jenkins  
 Everett Keller  
 Keshar Mehta-Harwitz  
 Leela Mehta-Harwitz  
 Marie-Therese Tata  
 Henry Trimble  
 Yonatan Tussa  
 Gabrielle Williams

## Second Grade

Alexandra Abebe

Kelci Barnette  
 Jocelyn Bostic  
 Kamryn Bowman  
 Ashford Connor  
 Miles Davis  
 London Downing  
 Spence Fridie

Antonino Imbroscio  
 Camille Jones  
 Darius King  
 Jay Matthews II  
 Zoe McCullough  
 Kaden Mont  
 Cyntia Pattison  
 Ethan Reece  
 Rachael Romine  
 Madison Swanson  
 Godloves Tata  
 Courtney White  
 Bryan Wilson  
 Tony Wilson  
 Jordan Yates

## Third Grade

Margaret Goletiani  
 Sophia-Rose Herisse  
 Gavin Rasmussen  
 Tolani Smith  
 Lyndon Steele  
 Colyar Trimble

## Fourth Grade

Chandler Brossard  
 Caleb Bush  
 Alicia Dawson  
 Jamal Deane  
 Devon Dunn  
 Alexander Leonard  
 Leo Saunders  
 Kwaniyah Tuffour  
 Jason Tyner

## Fifth Grade

Theo Biddle  
 Frank Borriss III  
 Andonny Garcia  
 Jada Matthews  
 Tijara Smith

## PROMOTING PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Research shows that children are more likely to succeed academically and are less likely to engage in violent behavior if their families are involved in their education.

Many parents say, however, that they feel unwelcome or uncomfortable in their children's schools. Teachers often feel under attack by parents who are highly involved. Learn how to bridge the gap.

### BUILD A BRIDGE

“Educators need to be willing to recognize the extent of this disconnection as a precondition for involving families in their children's education.”

The following suggestions are offered to reduce a feeling of disconnection:

- Be sure the first contact with parents is a positive one.
- Communicate with parents straightforwardly and simply, avoiding educational jargon.
- Ensure that all parents have regular access to clear, concise, and easily readable information about their children's school and classroom.
- Ask parents to share their concerns and opinions about school and address those concerns.
- Accommodate parents' work schedules.
- Accommodate language and cultural differences.

The National PTA has also set the following national standards for parent/family involvement programs:

- Establish regular, meaningful communication between home and school.
- Promote and support parenting skills.
- Encourage active parent participation in student learning.
- Welcome parents as volunteer partners in schools.
- Invite parents to act as full partners in making school decisions that affect children and families.
- Reach out to the community for resources to strengthen schools.

--Tafia Allah-Pringle

## Lost & Found!

Even with the warmer weather, there are still items placed at the school's Lost and Found table in the vestibule of the auditorium. Each month the unclaimed items go to Value Village. There are only a handful of days left in the school year for students to lose things - but also only a few days left in the school year for parents and students to claim things. Act quickly to look for something your child may have lost!

## Nativity Church Offers 5-Week Summer Program

Nativity Catholic Church, 6000 Georgia Ave. NW, is offering a summer program for boys and girls entering grades 2-8. The camp will be held Mondays-Fridays from June 28 through July 30, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Activities will include group games, basketball swimming, soccer, computers, arts and crafts, acting, dance, singing, English and math review, table games, value time, outings and more.

The program is co-sponsored by Nativity Church, D.C.'s Summer Youth Enrichment Program and the D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation. Registration for the summer program is \$15. The weekly fee is \$75 (and \$65 a week for siblings). Aftercare from 4 to 6 p.m. is available at \$25 a week (or \$10 a day).

To register a child you must bring a copy of the child's most recent medical/emergency and immunization records and payment for at least one week's camp fee per child (all payments are to be made in cash or money order).

To learn more call 531-6396.





The pay is zero. But the benefits are immense. You'll be contributing to school life and enhancing your child's educational experience. Here are our current job openings:

- ☐ **School Historian.** We need someone with a good camera, a memory card with lots of available space, and a sharp eye for taking pictures of cute kids. Shepherd is expected to have about 340 cute kids next year, so your work will be cut out for you. Any time kids gather - mornings, after school, aftercare, events like the Pre-K Play Date and Fall Fest - is prime time for the school historian to ply his or her trade.
- ☐ **Box Tops Coordinator.** Be in charge of the District's third-largest Box Tops for Education campaign - and the second-biggest in the D.C. Public Schools system! Get the message out to parents about Box Tops products, and get the message to kids about turning in collection sheets to win prizes. It's a painless way to raise \$500 or more for Shepherd, but it doesn't happen by itself. You can make it happen.
- ☐ **Marquee Sign Changer.** A school as active as Shepherd needs an alert parent (or parent team) to change the signs outside school every few weeks or so as new events keep happening. You can even keep the box at home that contains the letters, numbers and punctuation marks - what a deal if your young child is starting to put together words on his or her own!
- ☐ **PTA Listserv Moderator.** We need a parent to monitor the traffic on the PTA's listserv, post the Mustang each week it's ready, and approve new parents who seek to join.
- ☐ **Mustang Editor.** We'll put up our weekly newsletter against any school's! But we need more than one editor so that a team of editors can take turns. We have openings for one, two or three parents willing to take turns, promote school events, meet deadlines, and use spell-check.
- ☐ **Mustang Layout/Design Editors.** We need at least two people, again taking turns, to design the Mustang. If you know how to use Google Images and Microsoft Publisher, you're already ahead of the game. Content is king, but your personal stamp on the newsletter's look is what gets parents reading it.
- ☐ **Jazz Night Coordinator.** Each year in late winter or early spring, Shepherd Elementary hosts a big pot-luck thank-you to school families and the Shepherd Park community by hosting a free Jazz Night, primarily featuring musicians who have studied in Howard University's music program. The coordinator solicits pot-luck contributions, works with our contact at Howard, and recruits volunteers for children's activities for the evening.
- ☐ **PTA Meeting Prep.** You be the hero of kids and parents alike. You order the pizza from Ledo. You get bottled water and juice boxes for parents and students. You arrange for the grown-ups to mind the children while the PTA meeting is going on.

We're also looking for one parent to handle an assignment so sensitive it can't even be described in the pages of the Mustang!

If you're interested, or even intrigued, by the possibilities for how you can help the school, please get in touch with incoming PTA President Mark Pattison at 829-9289 or [pattison\\_mark@hotmail.com](mailto:pattison_mark@hotmail.com).

## School's Open this Summer --And So is the School Office

Even if you're not sending your child to Shepherd's summer school program, you can still conduct business at the school office.

Ms. Brooks will be serving as the summer school secretary. If you have mail or forms to deliver or pick up, stop by the office before you head off to work (or come home from work), or while you're running other errands.

You can drop off used cell phones, too, in the purple box. And you can deposit items for the PTA in the PTA box. You can also submit Box Tops for Education coupons in the Box Tops box in the office. Just make sure you include your child's name on a Box Tops Collection Sheet or a plastic baggie.

## Got DVDs?

We still have order forms on the rack outside of school for copies of the DVD slide show featuring your kids and our kids at Shepherd from this year's school historian, Victoria Botvin. The DVDs can play in any computer or DVD player and they contain more than 250 photos. To get your copy, fill out the order form and put it, along with a check for \$25 made out to Shepherd Elementary PTA, in an envelope in the PTA box in the main office. Do it before school's out for the summer. Remember: Every penny of profit goes to the PTA, and there's no better time than the present to come and get these memories.

## Shepherd Park Picnic is June 26th

The Shepherd Park Citizens Association's annual picnic will be held Saturday, June 26, 2-6 p.m. on the field at Lowell School, on Kalmia across 16th Street from Shepherd Elementary. There will be food and drink provided by restaurants and supermarkets in the neighborhood, and plenty of entertainment for young and old alike. Lucky picnickers may even win a raffle prize. The rain date is Saturday, July 10. For more information, go to [www.shepherdpark.org](http://www.shepherdpark.org).



# Mustang



Can you help us with the layout and design of the Mustang?

We're hoping you could take turns with our other design and layout parents through the end of the school year next month. It would serve as a great introduction to doing this kind of service for 2010-11, though!

If you can offer your talents, please get in touch with 2010/2011 PTA President Mark Pattison at 829-9289 or at

[pattison\\_mark@hotmail.com](mailto:pattison_mark@hotmail.com).

## The Parent Stop Time to Play!



*"The best inheritance a parent can give to his children is a few minutes of their time each day." -M. Grundler*

Summer and outdoor activities go hand in hand. It's like peanut butter and jelly.

As both a wife and mom of two boys, it's part of our daily routine -- golf class, swimming practice, martial arts and tennis camp.

Family favorites are bike riding, kickball, playground fun, board games, building sandcastles at the beach, hide and seek, backyard bowling, riding scooters, skateboarding and I would be remiss if I did not mention Wii.

Are you looking for kids' games to play? How about classics like: duck-duck-goose, jump rope, hopscotch, charades, backyard water games, obstacle course, coins in a bucket, backyard camping, checkers, chess, memory, Chutes and Ladders, Monopoly or ...

Following are suggested ways to put a twist on a classic game of scavenger hunt.

### 1. Scavenger Hunt

The idea of a scavenger hunt is to find all the items on a list and return them to a designated place as quickly as possible.

You can play as individuals or on teams, either inside the house or outside.

- Make a list of items available in the backyard or in nature if playing outdoors or anything you think of easily available around the play place.
- Make multiple copies of the list for each child.
- Ask each child to find as many things as they can from the given list.
- Once kids are done with the hunt, ask them to draw pictures of what they find.

Finish the hunt by tallying how many things they ticked off the list.

Children develop skills to identify objects, memorize names, shapes and colors and exploration skills.

### 2. Beyond Scavenger Hunt

- Alphabet hunt -- must find something for each letter of the alphabet.
- Indoor hunt -- each person looks for things and checks them off a list when they find them without picking them up.

Newspaper hunt -- each person is given a list of words, sentences, advertisements, or photographs that are to be cut out or circled in a newspaper.

Enjoy your family fun time!

Cheers!

--Tafia Allah-Pringle

## Thank You Corner

Our family would like to thank Mark Pattison for his outstanding work in keeping the SES community well informed via e-mailed announcements, save-the-date messages and countless reminders!!

## Thanks Mark!

*Sabine and Rockfeler Herisse,*

*(Parents of Romy & Sophia-Rose)*

As a Shepherd parent for the last three years, I would like to say, "Thank You" to the faculty and staff.

Our daughter has had the daunting task of being taught by Ms. Miller, Mrs. Crockett and Mr. King – all exceptional educators. As a result of their tutelage, our daughter has chosen several future career paths: 1) being an educator, and 2) a possible forensic scientist. And for that, my family and I "Thank you!"

The proud parents of Chandler Mabry (Terrific Kid recipient the last three years, IB Student of the Month of May and Summer Reading Winner) would like again to say "Thank You" from the bottom of our hearts.

Tonia Mabry



## BOX TOPS REPORT

Congratulations to all our students for a great year and helping us meet our goal of collecting \$500 in Box Tops. While enjoying the summer, you can help us get a start on next year's goal by participating in the summer collection effort. Please use the following link to download a summer's worth of collection sheets: [www.boxtops4education.com/Image.aspx?Id=57](http://www.boxtops4education.com/Image.aspx?Id=57).

If you need a refresher, here are the rules:

Glue or tape (no staples) one Box Top Coupon onto each dotted box on the collection sheet to help earn CASH for the Shepherd Elementary PTA! Each completed sheet is worth \$1 to our school. (Expired Box Tops, Box Tops with missing expiration dates, and other coupons such as Betty Crocker points cannot be used.) Alternately, you can clip and bag your Box Tops. Please carefully label each bag with your student's name and the quantity.

For more information about the Box Tops for Education Program and eligible products, please visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

Thanks for your help, and see you next school year!

*Katherine Trimble,  
Shepherd Box Tops Coordinator*



### Shepherd Elementary School Mission:

All stakeholders are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social, and physical well-being within a supportive, creative and flexible environment in which children learn to think compassionately and learn globally.

## The Mustang Round-Up

### Join the PTA Listserv Today –

To subscribe, send an email (**include your name, your child's name and his/her teacher/class**) to:

[Shepherd\\_Elementary\\_PTA-subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:Shepherd_Elementary_PTA-subscribe@yahogroups.com).

Once signed up, you will be able to receive listserv updates directly to your email inbox. If you prefer to not receive emails for each listserv posting, simply select "no email" under the message delivery option in your listserv user setup.

### Past Issues of The Mustang are Online –

Would you like to read *The Mustang* electronically? Need to refer back to a past issue? Each week, *The Mustang* is uploaded to the files area of the PTA listserv. Join the listserv and click to read.

*The Mustang* is also available on the Shepherd Elementary School website at [www.shepherd-elementary.org](http://www.shepherd-elementary.org).

## Deadline Isn't Looming!

### Next Mustang Issue

Is at the beginning of the next school year but you can still send contributions to:

[\*\*sesmustang@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:sesmustang@gmail.com)

You'll be glad you did!

## Shepherd Elementary School



7800 14th Street, NW,  
Washington, DC 20012  
Office Telephone: 202-576-6140  
Office Fax: 202-576-7578

Mrs. Jamie Miles, Principal – [jamie.miles@dc.gov](mailto:jamie.miles@dc.gov)  
Ms. Robyn Brooks, Admin. Assistant – [Robyna.brooks@dc.gov](mailto:Robyna.brooks@dc.gov)  
Ms. Charisse Brossard, PTA President – [cbrossard65@gmail.com](mailto:cbrossard65@gmail.com)

### The Mustang Newsletter Editors:

Fred Lewis & Mark Pattison

**Layout/Design:** Nayada Cowherd & Rose Dawson

**Production/Distribution:** Angela Anderson & Marcie Bane  
Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to:

[\*\*SESmustang@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:SESmustang@gmail.com)